

Volume 64 December 2017 No. 10



Calendar			
Wed, Nov 22	Pick up your Bugle at PO lobby!	Thur, Dec 7	Neighbors Helping Neighbors Meeting, Town Office, 10am
Thur & Fri, Nov 23 & 24	Thanksgiving Holiday Town Office is closed No Trash Pickup		Historic Preservation Committee, Town Office, 10am
Sat, Nov 25	No Farmers Market		GPJams, Town Hall, 8pm
Mon, Nov 27	Art at Penn Place presents Malathi Jayawickrama	Fri, Dec 8	Town Holiday Sing-Along, Town Hall, 7:30pm
Tue, Nov 28	Arboretum Committee Meeting, Town Office, 7pm	Sat, Dec 9	Garrett Park Farmers Market, Penn Place/CSX Parking Lot, 9am-1pm
Thur, Nov 30	GPJams, Town Hall, 8pm		Santa comes to Garrett Park! Town Hall, 3pm
Fri, Dec 1	Montgomery Potters Fair, Town Hall, 2-8pm	Mon, Dec 11	Town Council Meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm
	Files Described in Page 19 and	Tue, Dec 12	Lunch Bunch, Town Hall, 12:30pm
Sat, Dec 2	Garrett Park Farmers Market, Penn Place/CSX Parking Lot, 9am–1pm	Fri, Dec 15	Film Society, <i>Memento</i> , Town Hall, Dinner 7pm, Film 8pm (See p.9)
	Montgomery Potters Fair, Town Hall, 10am-6pm	Sat, Dec 16	Garrett Park Farmers Market, Penn Place/CSX Parking Lot, 9am-1pm
Sun, Dec 3	Art at Penn Place, Artists Reception, Malathi Jayawickrama, Penn Place,		GIVES collection, next to Farmers Market, 9am–12pm
	3-5pm	Thur, Dec 21	GPJams, Town Hall, 8pm
	Montgomery Potters Fair, Town Hall, 11am-5pm	Mon, Dec 25	Chistmas Holiday Town Office is closed
Mon, Dec 4	Yard Waste Pickup begins monthly		No Trash Pickup No Recycling
Tue, Dec 5	Archives Committee Monthly Meeting, Town Archives Office, 7:30pm		tave a tolly Christmas

# What Composts in Garrett Park Stays in Garrett Park!

November's Town Council came to order promptly at 7:30 p.m. on a chilly evening with half a dozen citizens in the audience. The meeting began with a call for citizen presentations, of which there were several.

Ajay Bhatt, who moved to Garrett Park earlier this year with his family (welcome to town!), made a

request for relocating the planned sidewalk replacement in front of their house (10933 Montrose, at the intersection of Montrose/Claremont). He noted that since the house had been rented out for a couple decades by an owner living far away, that owner had not interacted with the town during the planning process. The Council took his requests under advisement, but it appeared from the discussion that

alternatives had been considered by the town and discarded as impractical. Whatever the outcome of this particular request, it was nice to see a new young family becoming engaged in town affairs.

Dick Pratt made a somewhat similar, but more general request, that the town consider tweaking the sidewalk plans as the project moves forward to the final plan.

Marion Green made a plea that the town move forward on hiring an archivist to oversee the Town Archives. She illustrated her plea with an example of recently received materials concerning which the volunteers at the archives were unsure how to organize and classify. Mayor Benjamin noted that now there is a board in place for the archives, and the town has money to hire an archivist, so that a hiring process will hopefully move forward now.

Homan Heidarian (son of Farhad and Nahid Heidarian, who live at the corner of Strathmore and Montrose) asked whether the planned sidewalks were to be made of pervious or impervious material. Council member Hans Wegner and Mayor Benjamin welcomed the question, and explained that the town had looked into the possibility of pervious materials (which would permit rainwater to drain through the sidewalk rather than running off) with considerable interest. However, they discovered that in our heavily forested town, this would be impractical as it would involve regular vacuuming, an uncertain but probable short life span before clogging (even with vacuuming), and digging a drainage trench to be filled with gravel beneath the sidewalks that would add expense and disturb tree roots. So while this particular idea for the sidewalks will not be adopted, Council member Jane McClintock noted that it is a pleasure to see town residents energized by "green" issues (more on greening at the very end of this report).

The only action item for the evening was a vote on removing a town-owned tree at 10920 Kenilworth Avenue—the property which recently had been granted a demolition permit, and where the new house is now under construction. It turns out that the design for the new house involves a driveway routed through the tree. The Council voted unanimously to remove the tree with the understanding that the builder would pay for the work and a replacement.

Next, the Mayor reviewed a letter received recently from the Maryland Historic Preservation Office. The letter states that the sidewalk project will have no adverse effect on historical properties. This letter means that the town can move to a 100 percent design for the project (i.e., the final, complete engineering design), with at least a possibility of construction beginning next spring. The only minor sticking point is that a storm-water abatement piece



of the project, involving water that runs through a drainage pipe under Claremont at the border between Porcupine Woods and the Schwartz property, is not on town property as originally thought but on the Schwartz property. The Schwartz's have agreed to grant the town an easement for this work for the princely sum of \$10. So generous! But the fact that the work was not entirely confined to town property will involve some additional interactions between the town government and the state to comply with various regulations.

The final item of the evening was the Town Manager's monthly report. This was short and sweet. Five months into the town fiscal year, expenses and revenues are running at expected levels. Furthermore, the street paving project this fall (now completed) came in under budget (by approximately \$40,000). Hooray!

There was a last question for Gene Swearingen concerning the days of the week when the leaf removal crew does its work—apparently, it was observed that they had come on a recent Saturday, before people had a chance to finish their weekend leaf raking. Gene emphasized that the intended days for leaf removal are Monday/Tuesday, but that is subject to weather delays.

And finally: Noting that leaves composted right in Garrett Park are preferable to having them carted out of town to a composting site elsewhere ("what composts in Garrett Park stays in Garrett Park," so to speak), Council member McClintock urged the town to advertise the continued availability of composting bins from the town. So I end this report with that advertisement: If you do not have one, get yourself a FREE composting bin for your leaves and kitchen vegetable material. Just contact the town office. Your garden will appreciate it!

Ed Lincoln, Bugle Reporter

## **Notes from the Women's Club**

# **GP Women's Club-Sponsored Activities for Your Calendar**

Come Sing! It's time to Carol! On Friday, December 8, 7:30 pm, at the Town Hall, join us at the

35th Annual Do-It-Yourself Carolfest. This always-

popular tradition fills the Town Hall fast; get there early for a good seat! Our Garrett Park resident Doug Mader



leads us in song. Bring your voices and a little something to share: bite-sized goodies and savories welcome!

**Santa's Coming to Town!** He's making his list...and coming to Garrett Park Town Hall on Saturday, December 9! 3:00 pm: Sing along with George Oakley, Garrett Park neighbor and entertainer of all ages! 3:45 pm: Santa makes his appearance!



Bring your list and tell Santa what you'd like for Christmas! This is a great photo opportunity. Santa departs once he visits with all children in line, so please arrive early to have time to

visit! As always, snack donations (bite-sized goodies like cookies, chips, bars, veggies) are welcome.

Lillian, Nikki, Elena, Chuan and Jean Women's Club Planning Committee

# Put the #1 to work for you

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# **Green Tip of the Month**

Leaves composted right in Garrett Park are preferable to having them carted out of town to a composting site elsewhere. And besides, your garden will love it!

If you do not have a composting bin for your leaves and kitchen vegetable material, get yourself a FREE one.

Just contact the Town office: Elizabeth Henley, Assistant to the Town Manager, <a href="mailto:adminelizabeth@garrettparkmd.gov">adminelizabeth@garrettparkmd.gov</a>, Box 84 or phone 301 933-7488.

### **Notes from GPNS**

The 2017 Garrett Park Nursery School bake sale and silent auction was a huge success — surpassing expectations by about 40%! Thank you to all the families who donated items for bidding. Thank you to all the families who volunteered with working the event and baking. But most of all, thank you to everyone who came out for the spectacular party and auction! The food was delicious. The drinks, plentiful. The live music, a real treat!

GPNS has been a Garrett Park institution for decades. So many of our current and recent students have parents who attended. And we hope some of them eventually have children who carry on the tradition.

So thank you for your part (big or small) in keeping GPNS vibrant for so many years.

Bridget Manifold and Joanna Welch GPNS fundraising co-chairs The *Garrett Bugle* is a newsletter publication by the Citizens Association of Garrett Park and published 10 times a year. Publication is supported by member dues. All residents of Garrett Park are members of the Citizens Association. Yearly dues (\$25 per family or \$15 per individual per address) can be sent to Citizens Association, Box 456, Garrett Park, MD 20896. Articles, ads and other content for the *Garrett Bugle* can be emailed to <a href="mailto:GPBugle@googlegroups.com">GPBugle@googlegroups.com</a>.\*

#### Citizens Association Officers

Darshini Trivedi, President ~ Michael Lutkenhouse and Lesley Maloney, Vice-Presidents ~ Bridget Silverman, Treasurer ~ Sean Conlan, Secretary

Garrett Bugle Staff (GPBugle@googlegroups.com)
Editor: Kacky Chantry (Box 470, EditorGPBugle@gmail.com)

**Reporters, Writers, Copy Editors:** Pat Aufderheide (Box 346), Carol Davies (Box 351), Cathy Gebhard (Box 41), Ed Lincoln (Box 348), Brian Mizoguchi (Box 256)

**Ads and Distribution:** Peggy Pratt (Box 158)

**Calendar and Subscriptions:** Joanne Schmader (Box 415) ~ First-class subscriptions cost \$15 (no bulk mail).

\*Editor and staff reserve the right to edit submissions for length and clarity. Unsigned <u>Letters to the Editor</u> will not be printed.

# **Neighbors Helping Neighbors**

# Calling All Garrett Park Workers

Wanna make some money? Anyone willing to rake leaves, shovel snow, pet sit and/or babysit, please provide the following:

- Name and age
- Jobs wanted
- Email and/or phone number
- Any baby sitting or other relevant certifications.

Send above information to Elizabeth Henley, Assistant to the Town Manager,

<u>adminelizabeth@garrettparkmd.gov</u>, Box 84 or phone 301 933-7488.

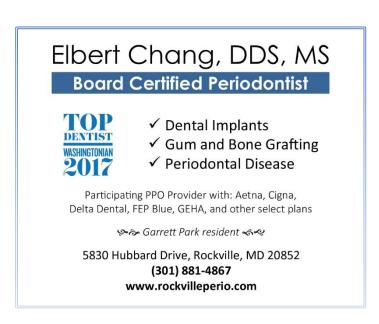
## **GIVES End of 2017 Notes**

Happy Holidays and Healthy New Year from GIVES!



- The GIVES Warm Coat Collection will take place December 1-16 at the GP Post Office. Look for the cardboard box labeled GIVES WARM COAT COLLECTION. *BRING ONLY NEW OR GENTLY USED COATS!* The final collection day will be Saturday, Dec. 16, from 9am to 12pm, and coats will be donated to Thrive DC and Stepping Stones Shelter.
- THINKING ABOUT A YEAR END DONATION? WHAT GIFT TO GIVE A FRIEND WHO SEEMS TO HAVE EVERYTHING? Please remember GIVES! Gift Donation Cards will be for sale throughout the month of December and available at the WARM COAT COLLECTION table on Saturday, Dec. 16. If you'd like to purchase them before or after Dec 16, send your check to GIVES, PO Box 331, Garrett Park, MD 20896
- AND FINALLY... Here's a very special end-of-the-year thank you to each of our fantastic new and longtime GIVES volunteers and substitutes: Kristin Altar, Karen Tincknell, Janet Wegner, Henri Keller, Lisa Max, Pat Aufderheide, Bert Zbar, Rebecca Rawls, Lesley Maloney, Suzi Balamaci, Glenda Ingham, Florence Gootenberg, Leslie Bethke,





Karen Anderson, Carol Davies, Linda Paine, Molly Shuck, Natalie Grande, Nahid Toottoonchi, Ann Gordon, Dawn Harris, Elizabeth Allin, Prakash Rath, Leah Mazade, Leora Hoffman, Kacky Chantry, Elizabeth Henley, Sophie Yarborough, Karen Cole, Kay Abrams and Elena Kantor.

Nancy Walz, Rana Koll-Mandel and Jenny Krivanek



### **Citizens Association Notes**

#### October was a big month for the Citizens

Association. Spooky Woods was our last big event of the calendar year and it was both a lot of work and a lot of fun. Hopefully you were able to attend; we had overwhelmingly positive response from people leaving the event! A huge shout out to the 20+ awesomely spooky volunteers who spent countless hours on variety of tasks including Scares, Pumpkin Carving, Movie, candy/glow sticks, crowd management, and setup/cleanup. We could not have done this without you!

When asked about his experience with Spooky Woods, this is what Sean Conlan (CA Secretary), had to say- "I got involved in Spooky Woods back in 2009 as the "troll under the bridge," and I've been part of Spooky Woods ever since. Speaking for myself, I put in the time, money and effort because I remember what it was like to be a kid on Halloween. It's my favorite holiday! Have you seen my house? It's the one covered in Halloween stuff. These days, there are lots of "professional" haunted houses but many of them are too intense, too expensive or too far away for families to travel. I'm proud that Garrett Park can put on a uniquely, family-friendly experience like Spooky Woods".

This year's event might have been our largest ever; drawing hundreds of crowds not just from Garrett Park and Garrett Park Estates but possibly also from other cities. This to us is a true example of the inclusivity and progressivism that this town prides itself on. While we are very happy that this event was so well-attended, in all honesty, a true measure of success of this (and other CA events) is not the size of the crowds but rather the positive reception from the crowds, and that's what makes the experience rewarding to us. Please know that we're already planning for next year, including improving the flow of the event so that everyone gets to enjoy the stations and we welcome suggestions on how to improve the event.

As has been said many times in the past,



the success of events such as Spooky Woods is solely dependent on help from volunteers. There were a few new faces this year and we are truly grateful for your support! However, most of the folks who were involved in this year's event were those who have continuously provided their support over the years (thank you all again!). While we have come to rely on help from many of these GP/CA veterans, the only way to ensure that these traditions continue to thrive in the years to come is if we can get new volunteers.

Therefore, if you truly enjoyed this year's Spooky Woods (or any other event from this year-July 4th, wine tasting etc.), and if you would like the CA to continue organizing events such as this one in the future, please consider volunteering. It just costs a few hours of your time, but the return on investment is so much greater than that.

As our year draws to a close, it's once again time to ask for volunteers to serve on the Citizens Association "Executive Board." Our officers need to rotate off periodically to give them a break and to bring fresh ideas to the Citizens Association. Our annual elections are at the Town Dinner in January (see below) and we are hoping that you'll consider serving. Please contact Darshini (CA President; <a href="mailto:darshinibtrivedi@gmail.com">darshinibtrivedi@gmail.com</a>) or Sean (CA Secretary; <a href="mailto:sconlan@gmail.com">sconlan@gmail.com</a>) if you are interested in serving on the Executive Board.

# The Citizens Association wishes everyone a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season!

*Save the Date.* 2018 Town Dinner- Saturday, January 27, 2018- Keep an eye on the Listserv and the Post Office bulletin board for the 2018 theme

Future Meetings. Do you have a suggestion or idea for a meeting topic that you feel would be of interest to the town? If so, please forward your thoughts to Darshini Trivedi (darshinibtrived@gmail.com) or to Box 456.

Annual Dues. The Citizens Association 2017 annual dues are still being collected. The annual dues are \$15 for individuals and \$25 per family. Thank you to all of those who have already paid. For those who have not, please submit dues by mailing them to the Citizens Association at Box 456.

Garrett Park Listserv. Our neighborhood is made up of people with a wide variety of backgrounds, skills, perspectives, and experiences. Tap into these resources and stay informed with the Garrett Park neighborhood listserv. The listserv is an electronic forum for neighbors to communicate information about town concerns, safety issues, upcoming events, and recommended services (for example, contractors, lawn care, doctors, and baby sitters). The listserv will not be used for unsolicited marketing, and you can unsubscribe at any time. To join, e-mail Todd Harris or sign in at <a href="https://groups.yahoo.com/group/GarrettParkneighbors/join">https://groups.yahoo.com/group/GarrettParkneighbors/join</a>.

Questions or comments for the Citizens Association? If so, please send a note to Box 456 or e-mail Darshini Trivedi at <a href="mailto:darshinibtrived@gmail.com">darshinibtrived@gmail.com</a>.

# **Town Manager Notes**

*Leaf removal and composting*. Leaf removal will continue into early January depending on the weather. Motorists, please use a little extra caution around the huge piles of leaves throughout town. Parents, please be extra mindful of vehicular and bike

traffic, and discourage your children from playing in the curbside leaf piles.

The amount of leaves removed from our yards and streets can also be

composted to use as fertilizer for upcoming spring plantings. Montgomery County provides compost bins **free of charge.** Use the following link to get information about the bins and where they may be obtained:

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/composting/bins.html

We encourage you to try composting your leaves and other yard debris.

Holiday gifts. Residents who would like to make a holiday gift to the six men who take away our trash, recycling, and yard waste, should mail a check to the Town of Garrett Park, PO Box 84, or drop it off at the Town Office. Checks should be made payable to the Town of Garrett Park with "Holiday Fund" as the memo. The Town will send each contributor an acknowledgement and will see that the fund is properly distributed during the Christmas holiday.

Holiday collection of trash, recycling, and yard waste. Thanksgiving Day trash collection will be on the following Monday (November 27). Yard waste will be collected monthly beginning on Monday, December 4. We return to weekly yard waste collection in March. Please check the Town website for collection information including large item pickup.

Holiday Sing-Along, 7:30 pm, Friday, December 8, Town Hall. We hope you'll come with your family for this festive annual event! Light refreshments will be served.

Santa comes to Garrett Park! Saturday, December 9, Town Hall. Children sing along with George Oakley, 3 pm, until Santa's arrival at 3:45 pm!

*Office Closure.* The Town office will be closed on November 23 and 24 for the Thanksgiving holiday. The town staff wishes everyone a very happy and safe Thanksgiving.

Gene Swearingen, Town Manager



# **Green Banner Contribution**

# Green Again!

This issue's masthead, aka the Green Banner, is credited to Lisa Kaeser and Bill Schmidt who live on Montrose. Their support is greatly appreciated!

If anyone else would like to support the Green Banner in future months, please make out a check to the Citizens Association (CA) for \$45 with "Green Banner" in the subject line; and mail it to the CA at Box 456. If you would like to dedicate your sponsorship to someone or something, please also include a note to that effect. Thank you







Your computer ready, today or tomorrow Fast, professional repairs & hardware upgrades. At home tutorials. Your computer likely as good as new, or better in most cases.

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Virus removal; memory upgrades; restore speed; computer to smartphone assistance; printer help; custom computer builds for gaming or other needs. Can't start your computer? Blue screen at startup? Computer slow? Programs, devices, or features don't work? Need wireless capabilities? Call or email me to arrive at a solution.

"Serving Garrett Park since 2010"

# Creative Contributions By Town Residents

#### A Hiker's Find\*\*

Hidden in tree hollows, Buried under rocks.

Snippets of thought, Glimpses of dreams.

Wishes and prayers, Family and friends.

Named loves, Pained loss.

Mementos maybe, Future hopes definitely.

All written,

Maybe never spoken.

But memories forever, Yet to be discovered.

A hiker's find, a hunter's prize, Only to be hidden once again.

Tell me,

What are those coordinates again?!

Kacky Chantry

\*\* In the November issue of the Bugle, I asked if you knew where this place, described in the poem, "I walked to Heaven Today," was located. The correct answer was "The Moongate Garden, part of the Enid A. Haupt Garden [at the Smithsonian Castle]." Unfortunately, there were no winners!

\*\* So this time we'll try to answer the <u>what</u> that is being described above in "A Hiker's Find." First person to correctly name it, wins a Starbucks' gift card—on me! <u>Emails only</u>, please! <u>editorgpbugle@gmail.com</u> Subject: A Hiker's Find

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# Yoga for All Levels

Tuesdays, 6:15–7:30 pm, 8–9 pm Garrett Park Town Hall

Classes include stretching, alignment, restorative and breathing work, meditation, and relaxation.

"Tuesday night's class showed me how out of shape my core is!
Thank you for bringing your experience and knowledge into the practice... not only is my mind refreshed, but my body says thank you for the stretching and awareness"

Questions? Email Liz at gayatrimantra.liz@gmail.com Visit lilylotusyoga.com



# What We're Cooking...

[Editor's note:

Although she didn't think she was that creative, Nikki Forry still wanted to contribute to the Bugle. Her idea: Recipes! I said, let's do it! So here is Nikki's first: Her Mom's fudge recipe...famous within her family! Yum! Give it a try!]

### **Never Fail Fudge**

by Nikki Forry's Mom

#### **Ingredients & Materials**

- Heavy pot
- Individualized pans
- 1 (approx) 14 1/2 can Carnation Evaporated milk
- 5 c sugar
- 2 sticks butter (or margarine)
- 1 (12 oz) pkg Nestle's Semisweet Chocolate Chips
- 4 squares shredded Unsweetened Chocolate
- 1 bag small marshmallows
- 1 c walnuts (optional)

#### **Directions**

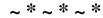
Butter the individualized pans that you will be putting the fudge into. Make sure that you cover the bottom and the sides. It doesn't need to be thick, but it should cover the entire surface.

Melt butter or margarine in a large saucepan. Add sugar and evaporated milk. Stir to combine and keep stirring periodically. The hotter this gets, the more you have to be there to stir it. Medium temperature on stove, or you will burn the ingredients.

When this mixture begins to boil (bubbles coming up continually to the top of the mixture), start timing. Let boil for 6 minutes, stirring constantly.

Turn off the heat and add marshmellows, chocolate chips, chocolate squares, and nuts (optional). I always put the marshmellows in first so they get weighed down. Stir till all are blended together.

Pour in buttered pans and set aside to cool. WARNING: This part can be stressful since the fudge quickly develops a skin as it cools and then gets lumpy when this happens.



# What We're Reading...

[Editor's note: This is the second installment of a monthly series of book recommendations submitted by your Garrett Park neighbors! This month's recommendations come from two of the town's book clubs.]

Winter and the holidays are upon us -- time for some good reading. Here's what a couple of book clubs in town have read and enjoyed - good to read alone or with an assembly of your choosing. To share their selections within our space, we've supplied internet links to third-party reviews of these books. Here are five books to consider from one of the town's clubs:

The Ambassadors, by Henry James (Harpers). A small-town man's wealthy fiance sends him on a mission to rescue her son from the attractions of Paris. An absorbing read, as discussed by Ann Patchett:

https://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?st oryId=97252695

**The Rector of Justin**, by Louis Auchincloss (Houghton, Mifflin). A "prep school novel" in the same way that *Moby Dick* is a "whaling novel" as it explores universal human themes.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wpdyn/content/article/2008/07/08/AR2008070802729. html

**Ship of Fools,** by Katherine Anne Porter (Little, Brown). Diverse characters on a cruise ship bound for Germany in the summer of 1931.

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/410760.Sh ip\_of\_Fools

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian, by Sherman Alexie (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers). "A budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation determined to take his future into his own hands, leaves his troubled school on the rez to attend an all-white, farm-town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot." <a href="https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/6">https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/6</a>
93208.The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time\_Indian

**This Side of Paradise** (Scribner). Five years before he wrote *The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald rocketed to fame and (temporary) fortune at age 23 after publishing this first and somewhat autobiographical novel.

http://www.nytimes.com/books/00/12/24/specials/fitzgerald-paradise.html

Finally, a couple of non-fiction books from a different book club:

**In The Garden Of Beasts**, by Erik Larsen (Crown). Love, terror and an American Family in

Hitler's Berlin. A page-turner.

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/20/books/in-the-garden-of-beasts-by-erik-larson-review.html?mcubz=0

Truth in Ancient Wisdom, by Jonathan Haidt (Basic Books). Engaging and insightful exposition and analysis of why we think and act the way we do. <a href="https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/bookreview-the-happiness-hypothesis">https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/bookreview-the-happiness-hypothesis</a>

If you have any books you'd like to recommend, please send in your thoughts for the next edition of "What We're Reading" to Brian Mizoguchi, <a href="mailto:bamizoguchi@gmail.com">bamizoguchi@gmail.com</a> and to the <a href="mailto:GPBugle@googlegroups.com">GPBugle@googlegroups.com</a>.

Brian Mizoguchi, Bugle Writer

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# **A Special Request**

# by a Former Resident

"I just read that the Bugle was originally started by Tom Guernsey and Jon Hall in 1953, both of whom I remember well. I lived on Rokeby Avenue just a few houses above Clyde, and Jon lived about a block away on Clyde and Kenilworth. He was my older brother's age, a few years older than me, but kids ran in a pack in GP back then. Do they still, I wonder?" asks Lee Pope.

Lee Pope lived in Garrett Park from around 1953 until she graduated from high school in 1965. Her parents, Roger and Barbara Pope, moved to California in about 1977. Lee has decided to embark on a project of collecting stories of "Growing up in Garrett Park" and putting these together in some kind of book-form. Lee would like our help, and our participation, if we're willing.

Lee will be interviewing people who grew up in in the Town as well as inviting those who prefer to do their own writing to submit their memories. She is looking mainly for childhood memories, stories of what it was like for people back then, whenever "then" is for them.

Lee asks that if you would like to participate in this project, to please contact her by email: <a href="mailto:leepo@sbbmail.com">leepo@sbbmail.com</a>. She also asks that we forward her request to those who may be interested in participating but have not yet heard about her project.

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# **Obituary**

### **Charlie Marvin (1937-2017)**

One-time Garrett Park resident, Charles Burger Marvin, died of cancer October 29 at his home in Peterborough, NH, one day short of his 80th birthday. Charlie grew up in Illinois and graduated in philosophy from Illinois Wesleyan University. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, attended intensive Russian language classes at Syracuse University and was stationed in Pakistan and Germany. Upon his discharge, he moved to New York City where he met Mary Jo Van Kirk, entering into a marriage of 52 years.

Bringing his Air Force experiences in intelligence analysis, he was accepted into the Central Intelligence Agency training program in 1966. When Charlie and Mary Jo moved into town, they thus gave added support to the contemporary local legend that Garrett Parkers were either Communists or CIA agents assigned to spy on them. Charlie was actually, however, a non-covert analyst, a career path he mostly followed in and out of the CIA until retiring in 1997.

In their new home at 11121 Rokeby Avenue, the Marvins were surrounded in a tight circle by long time residents, almost half multigenerational in residency; the Millards, Clevelands, Kizers, Horns and Pungas/Dubinskis. It was just beyond the Horns, toward Donnelly's Hill from the Marvins, that they could encounter within line of sight another pair of newcomers with an expanding family; the Pratts. The Marvin family basset hound and the Pratt family dachshund could often be found dozing together in the middle of Rokeby—far more effective than any speed bump!

Concurrently with Charlie's work in intelligence, he and Mary Jo bought and renovated eight houses in the Washington area. The first was their Garrett Park Chevy, previously the longstanding home of the late Mrs. Jones and her infamous pet, Lucy the goose. Charlie and Mary Jo produced a low-key yet striking home remodel, introducing a main entranceway and hall east of the original structure, which connected the old to a new multi-windowed living room pod. The result attracted one of Garrett Park's more famous author pairings. The remodeled abode was sold to Munro Leaf, renowned author of Ferdinand the Bull amongst some 40 books in all, and Margaret Leaf, author after Munro's death of the children's book "Eyes of the Dragon." This was the Leaf's final home, owned today by Margaret and Karol Soltan.

Upon retirement, Charlie moved to Jaffrey Center, NH, where he and Mary Jo bought and restored yet another old house. Ultimately, he gave up his passion of motorcycling, first put in motion at age 19, but remained active in local trustee and treasurer volunteer positions, with the Jaffrey Board of Selectmen naming him Volunteer of the Year in 2011. In 2012 the Marvins reluctantly downsized, relocating to nearby Peterborough.

Charlie is survived by his wife Mary Jo; his daughter, poet Cate Marvin Dupont of Maine, an infant when in Garrett Park; son-in-law Joseph Dupont; two step grandsons; granddaughter Lucia Drew Marvin and, in California and Iowa, two younger sisters.



## **GP FILM SOCIETY**



# GPFS Holiday Dinner & Film

In keeping with the season, on December 15, the Garrett Park Film Society is planning something special for its last film of the year,

Memento (2000, USA, Rated R). Written and directed by Christopher Nolan, Memento is a "neonoir psychological thriller" that will keep you guessing until the end. The film will be shown at 8:30pm and is free to members and new 2018 members; non-members pay \$5/person, or \$10/family at the door.

What really makes this a special occasion is the meal that will be served before the showing. The menu features filet of beef, or a vegetarian alternative, asparagus, potatoes, salad and dessert for \$20/person. Champagne or a holiday martini, will be served at 7:00pm (one free for current and new 2018 members) in addition to the usual soda, beer and wine on offer at prices ranging from \$1 to \$5. Dinner will be served at 7:30.

So we can plan adequately, If you intend to come for dinner, please send an email to <a href="mailto:garrettparkfilmsociety@gmail.com">garrettparkfilmsociety@gmail.com</a>. We hope to see you on December 15 at the Town Hall!

Suzanne Grefsheim, GPFS

# Letter from the Mayor

On November 13, 2012, Hans Wegner attended a seminar conducted by the Maryland State Highway Administration on a program with which we were not familiar: Safe Routes to Schools. He reported that it might give us the potential to build new sidewalks or replace others within the town using 100% Federal funding. Since an application to the program, should we participate, would have to be coordinated with the school, a meeting with the Garrett Park Elementary school principal was scheduled after Thanksgiving, on November 28. All parties at the meeting expressed interest in proceeding.

With the applications for projects due on January 11 we were faced with an interesting problem and an opportunity. The problem was getting Montgomery County Public Schools system and the Garrett Park Town Council to at least tentatively agree to the idea quickly enough for an application to be generated during the busy month of December. The opportunity was that all other applicants were faced with the same problem and may not be prepared to apply in such a short timeframe. That might reduce the level of competition for the available funds. An agenda item was placed upon the December 6 Town Council meeting agenda to ask for permission to apply for a grant. Both the school system and the Council, after thoughtful discussion, agreed to proceed. The application was prepared and submitted by the January deadline, and this information was reported at the January Council meeting.

My letter in the <u>Bugle</u> for that month was dedicated to an explanation of the grant program and of the proposed project, including the purpose, estimated cost, location, extent, possible impacts, and public involvement.

The letter stated, "It is important to note that this is only a proposal and a request for funds. No decisions have been made by either the Town or the State to proceed with the project. So far we have only developed a concept design and done preliminary costing in order to apply for the state funds. If we are awarded a grant we would then do more engineering, conduct public hearings, and work with residents affected to accommodate their desires to the maximum extent feasible. The proposal would come before the Town Council at least twice to allow public comment and determine the next steps – once before accepting the grant and a second time, after public hearings, to decide whether to go ahead with the project."

The letter was also sent out to the Town's mailing list and posted on the Town bulletin board in the Post Office. Thus, five years ago, began the

arduous and contentious process of building additional sidewalks in our town.

One of the biggest issues as we started out on the project was a letter we received from the State Historic Preservation Officer, who is also the Director of the Maryland Historical Trust, and who would have to approve our project because our entire town is a National Historic District. The letter stated, "...based on the description of the proposed work, it is the Trust's opinion that this project has the potential to adversely affect the Garrett Park Historic District. The installation of sidewalks and curbs, along with the removal of mature trees and other landscaping, could adversely impact historic characteristics and features that contribute to the significance of the historic district."

The finding was immediately cited by many of those in town who opposed the project as a disapproval of the project and an indicator that sidewalks and our historic district were incompatible. We have worked closely with the Trust in developing our project and have found ways to deal with its concerns.

I am happy to report that on November 9 we received a letter from the SHPO/director of the Trust that, after noting several of the areas we had worked on with them, stated, "Therefore, it is the Trust's opinion that the overall project will have no adverse effect on historic properties." This constitutes a project approval under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, which is what we needed to continue with design of the project. We thank the Trust for their willingness to work with us in finding ways to build the sidewalks in Garrett Park and will continue to work with the Trust as we proceed with project design.

We have instructed our engineer to complete the design of the sidewalks, consistent with the agreements we have with the Trust. There will still be some hurdles as we obtain other required approvals, but we believe that the most difficult one is behind us, and that this long-delayed project will now move much more swiftly. Our target is to have construction occur in the spring of 2018. Thank you all for your patience as we navigated the process.

Peter Benjamin